



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

JAMIE CLOVER ADAMS  
DIRECTOR

**DATE:** March 13, 2015

**TO:** Honorable Mike Green  
Honorable Nancy Jenkins

**FROM:** Matt Blakely, Legislative Liaison

**SUBJECT:** FY 2015 Rural Development Value-Added Grant Report

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In accordance with Public Act 252 of 2014, Section 701(6), attached is the required interim report on the Rural Development Value-Added Grants program.

Additional information regarding the grant program may be directed to Matt Blakely at (517) 284-5720. Questions regarding funding may be directed to Maria Tyszkiewicz at (517) 284-5722.

Attachment

cc: Representative Roger Victory  
Representative Dave Pagel  
Representative Edward Canfield  
Representative Sam Singh  
Representative Jon Hoadley  
Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood  
Senator James Stamas  
Jamie Clover Adams, Director, MDARD  
Gordon Wenk, Chief Deputy Director, MDARD  
Jacques McNeely, State Budget Office  
Jennifer Harrison, State Budget Office  
Bruce Baker, Senate Fiscal Agency  
William Hamilton, House Fiscal Agency

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Rural Development Value-Added Grant Program  
FY 2014-15 Interim Boilerplate Report  
P.A. 252 of 2014, Sec. 701(6)

On December 2, 2014 the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) announced the Request for Proposals for the Rural Development Value-Added Grant Program. Applications and instructions were posted on the MDARD website and applications were submitted to MDARD on January 12, 2015 for consideration.

MDARD was pleased to receive 52 applications requesting more than \$2.9 million dollars in grant funds. Proposals were referred to the Joint Evaluation Committee for their review and the Committee began meeting on February 26, 2015 to discuss all proposals in order to make recommendations to the MDARD Director for final decisions. A formal announcement on these awards is expected to be made in early April.